

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A unified messaging system, comprising:
a network;
a first messaging system connected to the network;
at least one additional messaging system connected to the network;
a network-connected device employing a software tool to integrate said messaging systems, said software tool comprising:

means to accept lists of messages from each messaging system,
means to correlate changes to said messages based on definable
parameters selected from the group consisting of: size, date, type, and status, and
means to replicate and synchronize said messages between all of the
messaging systems so that they contain identical content.

2. (Currently Amended) The unified messaging system of claim-~~{e1}~~ 1, further comprising a shared file system connected to said network.

3. (Currently Amended) The unified messaging system of claim-~~{e2}~~ 2, wherein said shared file system includes means for storing flat files.

4. (Currently Amended) The unified messaging system of claim-~~{e3}~~ 3, wherein said

shared file system comprises an additional messaging system.

5. (Currently Amended) The unified messaging system of claim-~~e1~~ 1, wherein said means to accept accepts messages selected from the group consisting of voice, e-mail, fax, SMS, IM, and pager.

6. (Currently Amended) The unified messaging system of claim-~~e1~~ 1, wherein said means to replicate reproduces message content in an appropriate standard format for each messaging system.

7. (Original) A method of unifying messaging on a network, comprising:
accepting lists of messages from a plurality of messaging systems connected to said network,
correlating changes to said messages based on definable parameters selected from the group consisting of: size, date, type, and status, and
replicating and synchronizing said messages between all of the messaging systems so that they contain identical content.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of unifying messaging of claim-~~e7~~ 7, further comprising storing flat files on a shared file system connected to said network.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of unifying messaging of claim-~~e8~~ 8, further comprising employing said shared file system as an additional messaging system.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of unifying messaging of claim-~~{e7}~~7, wherein messages accepted in forms selected from the group consisting of voice, e-mail, fax, SMS, IM, and pager.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of unifying messaging of claim-~~{e7}~~7, wherein said replicating step reproduces message content in an appropriate standard format for each messaging system.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein said plurality of messaging systems connected to the network includes at least two disparate IM systems, thereby enabling users of each to communicate between said two disparate IM systems.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for forwarding and synchronizing messages between end-users on a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving an instant message from a first end-user via an IM system connected to the network, said instant message being addressed to a second end-user;

replicating the content of said instant message in an appropriate standard format recognizable to a wireless messaging system connected to the network; and

causing said replicated instant message to be transmitted to said second end-user via said wireless messaging system, resulting in said IM system and said wireless messaging system each containing the content of said instant message;

whereby said first end-user and said second end-user are able to continue

~~communicating even when said second end user is not able to access said IM system~~
directly to communicate via the IM system and the wireless messaging system.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein said wireless messaging system is a mobile telephone communications system.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein at least a portion of the network comprises the Internet.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein said first end-user accesses said IM system via a client computer.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein said second end-user accesses said wireless messaging system via a mobile telephone.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein said replicating step comprises the step of:

determining when a new version of said instant message has been received by
correlating changes to said instant message based on at least one definable parameter selected
from the group consisting of size, date, type, and status.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to forward and synchronize messages between end-users on a network, said control logic comprising:

first computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive an instant message from a first end-user via an IM system connected to the network, said instant message being addressed to a second end-user;

second computer readable program code means for causing the computer to replicate the content of said instant message in an appropriate standard format recognizable to a wireless messaging system connected to the network; and

third computer readable program code means for causing the computer to cause said replicated instant message to be transmitted to said second end-user via said wireless messaging system, resulting in said IM system and said wireless messaging system each containing the content of said instant message.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 20, wherein said second computer readable program code means comprises:

fourth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine when a new version of said instant message has been received by correlating changes to said instant message based on at least one definable parameter selected from the group consisting of size, date, type, and status.

22. (Cancelled)